GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3620
ANSWERED ON:08.08.2017
Drought Relief
Singh Shri Ravneet

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has approached farmers' organizations demanding drought relief among other things;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the assistance provided by the Government to curb farmers' miseries?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

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(a) to (c): The State Governments have ready availability of funds in the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) for taking immediate measures in the wake of natural calamities including drought. Additional assistance, over and above SDRF, is considered from the National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) for natural calamities of severe nature in accordance with an established procedure and on submission of a Memorandum for Central assistance by the affected State. There are laid down items and norms for assistance from SDRF/NDRF. Assistance from SDRF/NDRF, inter-alia, includes assistance towards input subsidy for crop loss of 33% and above to all categories of farmers. The Government of India has approved an amount of Rs.24239.65 crores from NDRF to the drought affected states during the years 2014-15 to 2016-17. Further, the Government of India takes necessary steps to provide relief and easy & hassle-free loans to debt ridden farmers.

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